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Health Librarian

Glendale Public Library's Health Program Wins State-Level Competition

GLENDALE, Ariz. – Glendale Main Library's Health Librarian Frieda Ling was recently notified that the library's Operation Health Outreach program is the state winner for the 2006 Health Awards competition that is sponsored by the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS).

The state winners will be narrowed to ten finalists. Those representatives will be invited to participate in a health information forum co-sponsored by the National Library of Medicine and NCLIS on May 4 in Bethesda, Maryland. Nine of the finalists will be honored with a commemorative plaque and \$1,000. The grand prizewinner will receive a plaque and \$20,000 at the reception following the forum. The ten finalists will be announced soon.

Operation Health Outreach was designed to increase awareness of vital health issues and improve access to health information among non-English speaking residents. The two-phase program focused on Hispanics in 2005 and has expanded to include Asians in 2006. Activities have been held in three locations: Velma Teague Branch Library, Murphy Park, and the Glendale Community Center. Glendale's Main Library will host Asian-focused programming.

Besides holding health seminars, with Spanish translators, the library has been offering health-oriented computer classes, a health fair, pathfinders coordinated with the health topics, and pertinent health materials in various foreign languages.

For more information about Operation Health Outreach, contact Ling at 623-930-3553.

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